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## VERMONT NEWS

### Federation of Women's Clubs.

The 10th annual meeting of the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Brattleboro, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 10 and 11. Fifty or more delegates attended, and many not delegates. The session was very successful. The president, Mrs. P. F. Hazen of St. Johnsbury, presided at all the meetings. Mrs. C. C. Fitts, president of the Brattleboro club, gave the address of welcome to which Mrs. Hazen responded. The reports of the officers were very interesting. In the report of Mrs. F. A. Davis, recording secretary, the fact was brought out that the appointment of a woman to the position on the board of directors to the penal institutions of the state was made by Mrs. Hazen, was made at the state federation meeting in Brattleboro 10 years ago. Miss Margaret Kille of St. Johnsbury, corresponding secretary, mentioned among other things that year books of the Vermont club were sent to Katherine C. Fitts, treasurer of the Massachusetts Federation for use in the Panama Canal zone, where she went the past year. Announcement was made that the National Woman's club, with about 125 members, has just joined the federation. Mrs. Arms reported 27 clubs in the federation with a membership of 973. Dedications were received from the national president, Mrs. Philip S. Moore of St. Louis, from the chairman of the national board of information, Mrs. Mary L. Wood of Portsmouth, N. H., and from all the state presidents. Wednesday afternoon the federation committee reported.

Wednesday evening was devoted to a reception at the home of Mrs. George W. Hooker. Mrs. Hooker, Mrs. C. C. Fitts, president of the local club, and the state federation officers received, while young members of the Brattleboro organization were in the hall.

Thursday morning Mrs. Ashton of Brattleboro reported the tuberculosis congress at Washington and the president made her address. She alluded to the benefits derived from membership in the federation, expressed her appreciation of the interest and co-operation shown by the day women throughout the state and as parting suggestion urged the women to render joyful service in the home, town, state and nation. She also suggested that two additional vice presidents be elected and that the membership of individual at its annual meeting be used in determining the membership of the federation.

Afternoon committees reported Thursday afternoon and Superintendent Bars of the Industrial school, Vergennes, spoke. He said that information came with the unionization of trades, that they aimed to make working men out of idlers. All these were by boys were made by them. Among trades taught are tailoring, printing, practical dairying, in which boys are taught to do all necessary testing and work, practical agriculture. The last is so well taught that the work was kept in good condition for three months by boys under the guidance of a 12-year-old boy while the farmer was in Sweden. The scope of work for girls is less than that for boys, but sewing, pyrography and photography are among the things taught.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. O. C. Ashton of Rutland; first vice president, Mrs. Theodore A. Barry of Rutland; second vice president, Mrs. D. B. Chase of Lyndonville; third vice president, Mrs. C. H. Spooner of Vergennes; recording secretary, Miss Margaret Kille of St. Johnsbury; treasurer, Mrs. C. C. Fitts of Brattleboro; corresponding secretary, Mrs. P. F. Hazen of St. Johnsbury.

At the annual meeting Mrs. Betta Bridges of Brattleboro presented a very interesting exhibit followed by a display of work by Mrs. Abel Loomis of Brattleboro and his story.

The exhibit and crafts exhibit was a feature of the meeting and was unusually well attended. Several hundred societies and individuals sent exhibits, also the Brattleboro Junior school and state industrial school. The exhibit was valued at \$2500.

An Unusual Number.

Vermont has a record in the number of governors alive that is not equalled by any state in the union. When Governor Proctor became one of the number of governors alive in the state. The late Frederick Holbrook of Brattleboro, Vermont's war governor, 181-183; Senator W. W. Stewart of Middlebury, 1834-1836; L. L. Stewart of Shelburne, 1837-1839; Samuel Plimree of Hartford, 1840-1842; J. Ormsbee of Brandon, 1843-1845; Senator W. P. Dillingham of Montpelier, 1846-1848; C. S. Page of Hyde Park, 1849-1851; A. Woodbury of Burlington, 1852-1854; Josiah Groot of Derby, 1855-1857; W. C. Smith of St. Albans, 1858-1860; W. E. Whitney of Ludlow, 1861-1863; John B. Allen of North Bennington, 1864-1866; C. J. Bell of Walden, 1867-1869; Fletcher D. Proctor of Proctor, 1870-1872.

Unknown Man Killed.

The body of an unknown man about 30 years old was found lying on the Central Vermont railway tracks at Montpelier, Friday, by employees of the Montpelier

& Wells River Railroad Co. The body was terribly mangled. The head was cut off and the body cut in two. Evidently the man had tried to board the freight train at 2:30 o'clock that morning. The man has not been identified. A time book was found in his pocket with the name Doni Cartelli, and it is thought that the victim may be identified by this. A small sum of money was also found on his person.

Rev. P. A. Smith, Methodist pastor at Morrisville, was admitted last week to practice before the Vermont supreme court. Mr. Smith was a member of the Maine bar and practiced there for some time. He does not intend at present to give up the work of a clergyman.

The state conference of the Vermont Daughters of the Revolution will be held at Montpelier, Oct. 21 instead of Oct. 22 as first announced.

Judge H. H. Powers has resigned his position as general counsel of the Rutland railroad. Judge and Mrs. Powers celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage October 6.

Hon. Frank Plimley and Judge E. B. Flinn, of Springfield, have resigned as members of the court of claims. It is reported that Mr. Flinn will introduce a bill in the senate abolishing the court of claims.

The White River Tavern company, a corporation organized under the New Jersey laws, with a capital of \$100,000, has filed with the secretary of state the necessary papers enabling it to do business in Vermont. The White River Tavern at Hartford, formerly Pease's hotel, is owned by this company.

The Vermont Union Signal, a weekly labor paper, was discontinued with this week's issue, and the editor, Philip J. Halvosa, has resigned to join the Boston American staff.

Edward Ellis of Lemington was killed October 5 by the overturning of his wagon while he was driving into his yard with a load of vegetables. The heavy load fell on him and his back was broken.

### AGAINST CORPORATIONS.

Judge Taft's Decision in the Narramore Personal Injury Case.

If men who labor come to know Mr. Taft and study what he has done for their interests they will wonder how there could be any sincerity in the attempt by the Democratic party to prejudice labor against him.

Take the Narramore personal injury case in Ohio, which when considered should forever set at rest all this manufactured talk for political effect charging Mr. Taft with being the "father of government by injunction." Judge Taft's decision in the Narramore case when he was on the bench has been of tremendous benefit to employee as against employer in Ohio in personal injury cases.

The facts of the Narramore case are these: Early in 1899 Narramore was a brakeman on the Big Four road. One day while at work his foot caught in an unlocked frog. A train came along, and he was maimed for life. The railroad refused to do anything for him and his wife and children dependent upon him for support. Narramore sought the aid of the courts.

Ohio law held that the frog should not have been left open and courts generally held that an employee, knowing that his employer was in the habit of disobeying a law intended for the employee's protection, by continuing at work assumed the risks of the employment. The judge before whom the case was tried promptly dismissed the complaint.

On appeal the case reached the United States court of appeals and came before Judge Taft. Judge Harmon argued very masterfully for the railroad, but the Republican candidate for president went squarely against Ohio court precedents and of courts in many other parts of the country in rendering a decision in favor of Narramore. In his decision Judge Taft said:

"The intention of the Ohio legislature was to protect the employees of railways from injury from a frequent source of danger by compelling the railway company to adopt a well known safety device. And, although an employee impliedly waives a compliance with the statute and agrees to assume the risk from unlocked frogs and switches by continuing in the service without complaint, this court will not recognize or enforce such agreement. The imposition of a penalty for the violation of a statute does not exclude other means of enforcement, and to permit the company to avail itself of such an assumption of risk by its employees is in effect to enable it to nullify a penal statute and is against public policy."

Judge Taft's decision still stands as the law in federal courts. When the common pleas court in Cleveland took an opposite stand in 1903 the Ohio legislature in the spring of 1904 passed a law which made Judge Taft's decision one of the laws of Ohio. Who shall estimate the service that Judge Taft performed for all who labor in dangerous employment by his decision in the Narramore case, by which he made the law on the side of those who work?

The decision in the Narramore case was another example of the justice and fairness of the Ohio supreme court decisions, but Judge Taft found a way to bring through the meshes of the law sufficient reason to do inculpable service for all time to those who labor. His reason on the bench is not one requiring explanation, but understanding, to see its containing justice and fairness. In all this talk for the purpose of creating misapprehension there is not a Democrat in the land who has said that any of his decisions was wrong.

In all his error Judge Taft by deeds has shown the broadest sympathy for all who labor. No man will go further than he in efforts in their behalf, but he is not indulging in cheap talk of the Democratic type of hoodwinking by more promises and misrepresentations to catch a vote.

### Easy to Mix This.

What will appear very interesting to many people here is the article taken from a New York daily paper, giving a simple prescription, which is said to be a positive remedy for backache or kidney or bladder derangement, if taken before the stage of Bright's disease.

Fluid Extract Panderion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Shake well in a bottle and take in teaspoonful doses after each meal and again at bedtime.

A well-known druggist here at home, when asked regarding this prescription, stated that the ingredients are all harmless, and can be obtained at a small cost from any good prescription pharmacy, or the mixture would be put up if asked to do so. He further stated that while this prescription is often prescribed in rheumatic affections with splendid results, he could see no reason why it would not be a splendid remedy for kidney and urinary troubles and backache, as it has a peculiar action upon the kidney structure, cleansing these most important organs and helping them to sift and filter from the blood the foul acids and waste matter which cause sickness and suffering. Those of our readers who suffer can make no mistake in giving it a trial.

Stevens Double Barrel Shotguns.

The supremacy of Stevens Rifles has asserted itself so frequently and so impressively for generations past, that it is now universally conceded that these arms are peerless in their unerring accuracy. They are known as the "Bull's Eye Kind."

Of late, Stevens Double Barrel Shotguns have been making rapid strides in popular favor, being moderate in price and excellent gun value in every particular. For trap and field purposes these guns are earning an enviable name for themselves, and their low prices place them within the reach of all shooters.

The Stevens are manufactured in both hammer and hammerless styles—guaranteed to give service, satisfaction, and prove a first-rate gun investment.

If you want a good, strong, inexpensive shooter this fall, ask your local Hardware or Sporting Goods Merchant to show you a Stevens Double Gun. Persist in insisting on this time-honored make. If you cannot obtain, write to the J. Stevens Arms & Tool Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., and they will ship direct, express prepaid, upon receipt of Catalog Price.

A 160 page complete illustrated Catalog will be mailed to any applicant by above mentioned company, upon receipt of five cents in stamps to cover postage.

They are sold in sealed packages, are always of the same superfine quality and always the best.

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## Seventeen People Killed at Richford.

Dust Explosion Wrecked the C. P. Grain Elevator and Causes Great Loss of Life.

The greatest disaster since the railroad wreck at Hartford twenty years ago occurred at Richford Wednesday evening when a dust explosion wrecked the elevator, killed seventeen or more persons, and the flames burned the elevator, one section of the flour sheds used for storing feed, Elwin H. Grace's house and barn, nearly new, and fifty-one freight cars, mostly loaded. Beside the loss of life the property loss is probably a half million dollars.

At about 4:45 o'clock a dust explosion occurred without warning. At the same instant the whole elevator burst into flames, roaring and seething as ordinary fires do after the buildings are half burned. The roof was blown off, and the pieces of sheet iron roofing were carried to the north, northeast, and northwest, some pieces being found more than a mile away. Pieces of the boarding and timbers of the roof and roofs of cars were blown some distance. Nearly all of the windows of the nearest houses were broken. Elwin H. Grace's barn immediately caught fire, as did the flour shed just across the track. The first end of the shed was wrecked by the explosion, but the men therein were able to get out from under the debris. All of the men in the elevator were caught like rats in a trap, and without doubt were instantly killed by the explosion.

A sad case was that of two women, Mrs. Jerry Jelleff and Mrs. Arthur Guard. They were walking along the track opposite the elevator when the explosion occurred, and their clothing caught fire instantly. Mrs. Jelleff was probably stunned, as she was seen to be thrown down, and her body has not been found. It is probably in the ruins. It was impossible for anyone to get to her on account of the intense heat. Mrs. Guard, who died next morning, ran into the fields tearing her burning clothing from her body. A man nearby gave her such aid as he could. She ran home under a heavy coat. Before she reached home a coat was thrown about her. She lived more than one-fourth of a mile away. Her hair was burned off, and her whole body more or less burned. Of the victims fifteen were employed in the elevator. The death roll is as follows: William Barney, engineer, aged 50, married; Robert Mandigo, weigher, aged 25, married; Louis Laporte, 2, married in Bolton, Que.; James Tuttle, 29, married recently, came from East Haverhill, N. H.; Lucius Wright, aged 35, recently married; Herman Laugel, married; Almer C. Draper, foreman, aged 35, married; Clarence Smedley, aged 22; Hadley Holcomb, aged 25; Charles Narcan, aged 40; Louis Pappan, aged 40, married; Ralph Hare, aged 15; Alfred Forgue, 10; Osa Jacques; Joseph Jacques; Mrs. Jerry Jelleff; Mrs. Arthur Guard, aged 40.

The elevator was built by the Canadian Pacific Railway company in the fall and winter of 1890-91 at a cost of \$108,000. Its capacity was 600,000 bushels. Some four weeks ago storage sheds were built at West Derby and the elevator and sheds were leased to the American Cereal company and later to the Quaker Oats company. The latter company had established a grainmill in the elevator and there ground and mixed feed. The flour sheds were built in 1900 and 1903, a brick fire wall separating the halves. The sheds were 700 feet long and 80 feet wide at a cost of about \$12,000 each. The first section, or half, alone was destroyed. The elevator was 160 feet high and its dimensions were 130 by 90 feet. The chaff was an accumulation of 17 years.

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